

Claims

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*115*  
*116*
1. A crosslinker-free preparation obtainable by adding a precipitating agent to an aqueous solution and/or homogenized suspension of a biopolymer and then dewatering the mixture.
  2. A process for the preparation of crosslinker-free preparations, characterized in that precipitating agents are added to aqueous solutions and/or homogenized suspensions of biopolymers, and then the mixtures are dewatered.
  3. The process as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that 0.1 to 15% strength by weight aqueous solutions and/or homogenized suspensions of the biopolymers are used.
  4. The process as claimed in at least one of claims 2 or 3, characterized in that the aqueous solutions and/or homogenized suspensions of the biopolymers have a pH of from 1 to 12.
  5. The process as claimed in at least one of the abovementioned claims 2 to 4, characterized in that the viscosity of the aqueous solutions and/or homogenized suspension of the biopolymers is 1 000 to 100 000 mPas.
  6. The process as claimed in claim 5, characterized in that the viscosity of the aqueous solutions and/or homogenized suspensions of the biopolymers is 10 000 to 40 000 mPas.
  7. The process as claimed in at least one of the abovementioned claims 2 to 6, characterized in that precipitating agents are used which are

chosen from the group consisting of aqueous solutions of hydrogencarbonates, carbonates, hydrogenphosphates and the hydroxides of the alkali metals and alkaline earth metals, ammonia and organic nitrogen bases.

8. The process as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that the precipitating agent used is an aqueous sodium hydrogencarbonate solution.

9. The process as claimed in at least one of the abovementioned claims 2 to 6, characterized in that precipitating agents are used which are chosen from the group consisting of aqueous solutions of mineral acids and organic carboxylic acids.

10. The process as claimed in at least one of the abovementioned claims 2 to 9, characterized in that the pH of the precipitated biopolymers is between 1.0 and 14.

11. The process as claimed in at least one of the abovementioned claims 2 to 10, characterized in that auxiliaries and additives are mixed into the aqueous solutions and/or homogenized suspensions before or at the same time as the addition of the precipitating agent.

12. The process as claimed in at least one of the abovementioned claims 2 to 11, characterized in that the crosslinker-free preparations are charged with auxiliaries and additives after the dewatering.

13. The process as claimed in claims 11 and/or 12, characterized in that the auxiliaries and additives used are substances chosen from the

group consisting of polyols, emulsifiers, fibers, dyes, perfume oils, aroma substances, cosmetic active ingredients, pharmaceutical active ingredients and food additives.

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14. The process as claimed in at least one of the abovementioned claims 2 to 13, characterized in that dewatering is carried out by means of freeze-drying.

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15. The use of the crosslinker-free preparations as claimed in claim 1 as cosmetic agents.

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16. The use of the crosslinker-free preparations as claimed in claim 1 as medicaments and/or medicinal products.

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17. The use of the crosslinker-free preparations as claimed in claim 1 as foods.

18. The use of the crosslinker-free preparations as claimed in claim 1 as food additives.

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